

Scr. No. 10/089,746

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Response to Office Action of 24 December 2003

Atty Docket 114402-5

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, amend the first paragraph as follows:

The present invention relates to a connecting element for joining two support members absorbing tensile forces, which connecting element comprises at least a first and a second casing body with a through-hole for receiving the respective support members, which casing bodies can be joined together by way of a joining section at a first end of each casing body, the opposing second end of each casing body being provided with locking members for holding the support members fast.

Background of the Art

At page 3, amend the first paragraph as follows:

The connecting element must furthermore offer good flexibility, permit controlled assembly and dismantling and provide safe use for construction personnel when, for example, fitting and detaching a draw wire from a bracing wire, such as are commonly used, for example, in the construction of a bridge, structure, etc. The draw wire may be a wire of the same material and dimension as the wire core of the bracing wire that is to be drawn, but may also be of some other material and with another dimension. The draw wire may thus be used in a recurrent operation when drawing a number of bracing wires.

Summary of the Invention

At page 4, amend the third full paragraph as follows:

Such a method provides a quick and simple way of applying a support member, such as a bracing wire, to a construction, such as a cable-stayed bridge.

Brief Description of the Drawings

At page 5, amend the seventh paragraph as follows:

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Figure 9 shows a diagram of the connecting element used in the construction of a cable-stayed bridge.

Detailed Description of a Preferred Embodiment